

Notice of Allowability

Application No.

10/760,166

Examiner

Anthony J. Canning

Applicant(s)

TAKAHASHI ET AL.

Art Unit

2879

-- The MAILING DATE of this communication appears on the cover sheet with the correspondence address--

All claims being allowable, PROSECUTION ON THE MERITS IS (OR REMAINS) CLOSED in this application. If not included herewith (or previously mailed), a Notice of Allowance (PTOL-85) or other appropriate communication will be mailed in due course. **THIS NOTICE OF ALLOWABILITY IS NOT A GRANT OF PATENT RIGHTS.** This application is subject to withdrawal from issue at the initiative of the Office or upon petition by the applicant. See 37 CFR 1.313 and MPEP 1308.

1. ☒ This communication is responsive to 9/8/06.
2. ☒ The allowed claim(s) is/are 1-18.
3. ☒ Acknowledgment is made of a claim for foreign priority under 35 U.S.C. § 119(a)-(d) or (f).
- a) ☒ All b) ☐ Some* c) ☐ None of the:
1. ☒ Certified copies of the priority documents have been received.
2. ☐ Certified copies of the priority documents have been received in Application No. _____.
3. ☐ Copies of the certified copies of the priority documents have been received in this national stage application from the International Bureau (PCT Rule 17.2(a)).

* Certified copies not received: _____.

Applicant has THREE MONTHS FROM THE "MAILING DATE" of this communication to file a reply complying with the requirements noted below. Failure to timely comply will result in ABANDONMENT of this application.
THIS THREE-MONTH PERIOD IS NOT EXTENDABLE.

4. ☐ A SUBSTITUTE OATH OR DECLARATION must be submitted. Note the attached EXAMINER'S AMENDMENT or NOTICE OF INFORMAL PATENT APPLICATION (PTO-152) which gives reason(s) why the oath or declaration is deficient.
5. ☐ CORRECTED DRAWINGS (as "replacement sheets") must be submitted.
- (a) ☐ including changes required by the Notice of Draftsperson's Patent Drawing Review (PTO-948) attached
- 1) ☐ hereto or 2) ☐ to Paper No./Mail Date _____.
- (b) ☐ including changes required by the attached Examiner's Amendment / Comment or in the Office action of Paper No./Mail Date _____.
- Identifying indicia such as the application number (see 37 CFR 1.84(c)) should be written on the drawings in the front (not the back) of each sheet. Replacement sheet(s) should be labeled as such in the header according to 37 CFR 1.121(d).
6. ☐ DEPOSIT OF and/or INFORMATION about the deposit of BIOLOGICAL MATERIAL must be submitted. Note the attached Examiner's comment regarding REQUIREMENT FOR THE DEPOSIT OF BIOLOGICAL MATERIAL.

Attachment(s)

1. ☒ Notice of References Cited (PTO-892)
2. ☐ Notice of Draftsperson's Patent Drawing Review (PTO-948)
3. ☐ Information Disclosure Statements (PTO/SB/08),
Paper No./Mail Date _____
4. ☐ Examiner's Comment Regarding Requirement for Deposit
of Biological Material
5. ☐ Notice of Informal Patent Application
6. ☐ Interview Summary (PTO-413),
Paper No./Mail Date _____
7. ☒ Examiner's Amendment/Comment
8. ☒ Examiner's Statement of Reasons for Allowance
9. ☐ Other _____

DETAILED ACTION

Acknowledgement of Amendment

The amendment to the instant application was entered on 8 September 2006.

Election/Restrictions

This application is in condition for allowance except for the presence of claims 19 and 20 directed to a glass tube and a lamp element, respectively, non-elected without traverse. Accordingly, claims 19 and 20 have been cancelled.

Examiner's Amendment

An examiner's amendment to the record appears below. Should the changes and/or additions be unacceptable to applicant, an amendment may be filed as provided by 37 CFR 1.312. To ensure consideration of such an amendment, it MUST be submitted no later than the payment of the issue fee.

The application has been amended as follows:

In the claims:

Claims 19 and 20 have been canceled.

Allowable Subject Matter

Claims 1-18 allowed.

The following is an examiner's statement of reasons for allowance:

As to claim 1, the prior art of record fails to teach or reasonably suggest a method for manufacturing a high-pressure discharge lamp according to claim 1, specifically preparing a compound glass tube that includes an outer tube made of a first glass and an inner tube made of a second glass, the outer tube being located in tight contact with the periphery of the inner tube, the second glass having a lower softening point than that of the first glass, the side tube portion being formed of the first glass; inserting the compound glass tube into the side tube portion, and then heating the side tube portion, thereby tightly attaching the side tube portion to the compound glass tube; and heating, after the attachment step, a portion including at least the compound glass tube and the side tube portion at a temperature higher than the strain point temperature of the second glass.

As to claim 6, the prior art of record fails to teach or reasonably suggest a method for manufacturing a high-pressure discharge lamp according to claim 6, specifically inserting, into one of the pair of side tube portions, a compound glass tube and an electrode structure that includes at least an electrode rod, and then heating said one side tube portion to cause said one side tube portion to shrink, thereby forming one of the pair of sealing portions, wherein the compound glass tube includes an outer tube made of a first glass and an inner tube made of a second glass, the outer tube being located in tight contact with the periphery of the inner tube, the second glass having a lower softening point than that of the first glass, the side tube portions being formed of the first glass.

Claims 2-5, 9, 11 and 13 are allowable for the reasons given for claim 1, and for depending from claim 1.

Claims 7, 8, 10, 12, 14-18 are allowable for the reasons given for claim 1, and for depending from claim 6.

Any comments considered necessary by applicant must be submitted no later than the payment of the issue fee and, to avoid processing delays, should preferably accompany the issue fee. Such submissions should be clearly labeled "Comments on Statement of Reasons for Allowance."

Pertinent Prior Art

The prior art made of record and not relied upon is considered pertinent to applicant's disclosure.


Hing (U.S. 4,42,963) is prior art in the field of discharge lamp that teaches attaching the sealing plug then further heating the lamp to seal the discharge lamp (column 3, lines 37-42).

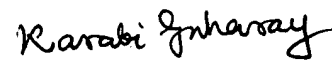
Contact Information

Any inquiry concerning this communication or earlier communications from the examiner should be directed to Anthony J. Canning whose telephone number is (571)-272-2486. The examiner can normally be reached on M-F 8:00-4:30.

If attempts to reach the examiner by telephone are unsuccessful, the examiner's supervisor, Nimesh D. Patel can be reached on (571)-272-2457. The fax phone number for the organization where this application or proceeding is assigned is 571-273-8300.

Information regarding the status of an application may be obtained from the Patent Application Information Retrieval (PAIR) system. Status information for published applications may be obtained from either Private PAIR or Public PAIR. Status information for unpublished applications is available through Private PAIR only. For more information about the PAIR system, see <http://pair-direct.uspto.gov>. Should you have questions on access to the Private PAIR system, contact the Electronic Business Center (EBC) at 866-217-9197 (toll-free). If you would like assistance from a USPTO Customer Service Representative or access to the automated information system, call 800-786-9199 (IN USA OR CANADA) or 571-272-1000.

Anthony Canning 
13 November 2006


KARABI GUHARAY
PRIMARY EXAMINER